

3636

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
ESAKI *et al.* )  
Filed: July 31, 2000 )  
Application Number: 09/629,820 )  
For: RECLINING MECHANISM FOR VEHICLE SEAT )



Group Art Unit 3636  
Examiner M. Nelson, Jr.

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

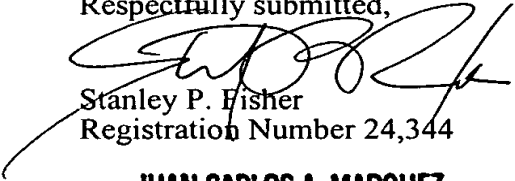
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GROUP 3600

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a response/amendment in the above-captioned application.

- ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.111 is enclosed.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Please charge my **Deposit Account Number 08-1480** in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$0.00 for \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, including fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account Number 08-1480**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
- ☒ Also enclosed is a *Response to the Office Action*.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Examiner M. Nelson, Jr.

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Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
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**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on October 4, 2001, the period of response to which is set to expire on November 4, 2001.

**REMARKS**

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated ) October 4, 2001 (U.S. Patent Office Paper No. 4). In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to proceed with examination of the application on the merits, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

**Election of Species Requirement**

In response to the Examiner's election of species requirement set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action, Applicants hereby elect the continued prosecution of the invention identified as Group 6, set forth in claims 1, 2 and 9, without traverse. Applicants submit that claims 1 and 2 are generic to all of the species identified in the Office Action. Further, Applicants understand that the non-elected species and their corresponding claims are hereby withdrawn from further consideration in this pending application. However, should any generic claim be considered allowed in this application, it is understood that the non-elected claims will be restored and allowed with this application. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file divisional applications on such non-elected species.